

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S. 166**

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TO:	The Honorable John E. Courson, Chairman, Senate Education Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Tricia Tangney		
DATE:	March 7, 2006	SBD:	2006093

AUTHOR:	Senator Elliot	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	59-5-72
SUBJECT:	Uniform Start Date for Elementary and Secondary Schools		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

This Bill establishes a uniform start date for elementary and secondary schools that is no earlier than the first Tuesday after Labor Day.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

Currently, school start dates vary among districts and many begin the school year in early August. Enactment will have no impact on the General Fund of the State, or on Federal and/or Other funds assuming PACT and HSAP testing dates do not change. However, there would be fewer instructional days provided to students before administration of the tests since the school year start date will be later in the year.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

The Education Accountability Act requires the State Department of Education to issue school report cards by November 1 each year. If PACT and HSAP schedules are delayed a month to allow for the same number of instructional days as is currently provided, the test results would arrive at the Department of Education in September instead of August. This would shorten the schedule for data verification for school report cards and for assessing adequate yearly progress. The Department reports that these factors would present difficulties for the agency in issuing the report cards on time, which could in turn affect agency expenditures unless the due date for issuing school report cards is changed to a later date

Approved by:



Don Addy
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget